

In the Claims:

1. (Original) A microporous material which comprises a positively charged framework comprising a silicophosphate structure.
2. (Currently Amended) A The microporous material ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1 having a framework density in the range of 12.5 to 20.5.
3. (Currently Amended) The ~~use of a~~ microporous material ~~which comprises a positively charged framework comprising a silicophosphate structure~~ of claim 1 wherein said microporous material is utilized as an anion exchange material.
4. (Currently Amended) The ~~use as claimed in~~ microporous material of claim 3 ~~which comprises~~ wherein said anion exchange material is utilized in the treatment of waste materials in effluent streams.
5. (Currently Amended) The ~~use as claimed in~~ microporous material of claim 4 ~~which comprises~~ wherein the microporous material is utilized in the removal of undesirable anion species from solutions in the nuclear power industry.
6. (Currently Amended) The ~~use as claimed in~~ microporous material of claim 5 wherein the anion species comprises pertechnetate anions.
7. (Original) A silicophosphate for use as an anion exchange material.
8. (Original) An anion exchange material which comprises a silicophosphate.
9. (Original) A method for the synthesis of a microporous material which comprises a positively charged framework, wherein said microporous material comprises a silicophosphate, said method comprising:

- (a) providing a two-phase system comprising:
 - (i) an organic phase comprising an organosilicon compound;
 - (ii) an aqueous phase comprising a phosphoric acid;
 - (iii) a phase transfer agent;
 - (iv) a structure directing agent; and
 - (v) a buffering agent;
- (b) stirring and facilitating reaction between the reactants; and
- (c) isolating the product.

- 10. (Currently Amended) A The method ~~as claimed in~~ according to claim 9 wherein said organic phase comprises an alcoholic phase.
- 11. (Currently Amended) A The method ~~as claimed in~~ according to claim 10 wherein said alcoholic phase comprises t-butanol or isoamyl alcohol.
- 12. (Currently Amended) A The method ~~as claimed in any one of claims 9, 10 or 11 according to Claim 9,~~ wherein said organosilicon compound contains a labile group capable of reaction with phosphoric acid.
- 13. (Currently Amended) A The method as claimed in claim 12 wherein said organosilicon compound comprises a tetramethylsilyl halide.
- 14. (Currently Amended) A The method ~~as claimed in~~ according to claim 13 wherein said tetramethylsilyl halide comprises tetramethylsilyl chloride or tetramethylsilyl bromide.
- 15. (Currently Amended) A The method ~~as claimed in any one of claims 9 to 14 according to Claim 9,~~ wherein said phosphoric acid comprises metaphosphoric acid or polyphosphoric acid.

16. (Currently Amended) A The method ~~as claimed in any one of claims 9 to 15 according to Claim 9~~, wherein said phase transfer agent comprises an organic sulphonate salt.
17. (Currently Amended) A The method ~~as claimed in~~ according to claim 16 wherein said organic sulphonate salt comprises a toluene-4-sulphonate salt.
18. (Currently Amended) A The method ~~as claimed in~~ according to claim 17 wherein said toluene-4-sulphonate salt comprises sodium toluene-4-sulphonate.
19. (Currently Amended) A The method ~~as claimed in any one of claims 9 to 18 according to Claim 9~~, wherein said structure directing agent comprises cations.
20. (Currently Amended) A The method ~~as claimed in~~ according to claim 19 wherein said cations comprise tetraalkyl ammonium cations.
21. (Currently Amended) A The method ~~as claimed in claim 19 or 20~~ according to Claim 9, wherein said structure directing agent comprises tetraethyl ammonium chloride or tetraethyl ammonium bromide.
22. (Currently Amended) A The method ~~as claimed in any one of claims 9 to 21 according to Claim 9~~, wherein said buffering agent comprises an ammonium salt.
23. (Currently Amended) A The method ~~as claimed in~~ according to claim 22 wherein said ammonium salt comprises ammonium acetate.
24. (Currently Amended) A The method ~~as claimed in any one of claims 9 to 23 according to Claim 9~~, which proceeds at a temperature of between 0° and 100°C.

25. (Currently Amended) A The method ~~as claimed in~~ according to claim 24 which proceeds at a temperature of between 20° and 70°C.
26. (Currently Amended) A The method ~~as claimed in~~ according to claim 25 which proceeds at a temperature of between 40° and 60°C.
27. (Currently Amended) A The method ~~as claimed in any one of claims 9 to 26~~ according to Claim 9, which proceeds for a duration of between 30 minutes and 12 hours.
28. (Currently Amended) A The method ~~as claimed in~~ according to claim 27 which proceeds for a duration of between 2 and 10 hours.
29. (Currently Amended) A The method ~~as claimed in~~ according to claim 28 which proceeds for a duration of between 6 and 8 hours.
30. (Currently Amended) A The method ~~as claimed in any one of claims 9 to 29~~ according to Claim 9, wherein the microporous material is isolated from the reaction mixture by filtration.